

REMARKS

Claims 9, 11-13, and 15-26 are now pending in this application. Claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 are rejected. Claims 11 and 12 are objected to. Claims 1-8, 10, 13 and 14 are cancelled herein. New claims 15-26 are added. Claim 9 is amended herein to clarify the invention, to express the invention in alternative wording, to broaden language as deemed appropriate and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues. Claims 11 and 12 are amended to stand in independent form. Other formal matters are attended to that were not addressed by the Examiner and accordingly are considered unrelated to substantive patentability issues. For the convenience of the Examiner, APPENDIX I is provided herewith having a complete set of pending claims with all amendments effected therein.

ABSTRACT OBJECTION

The abstract is objected to on the basis that it includes legal terms such as “comprising.” Applicant submits herewith a substitute specification and abstract wherein amendments are effected to place the text thereof into proper English in accordance with 37 CFR 1.125(c). Also accompanying this amendment is a reproduction of the original specification and abstract with markings indicating the amendments effected in the substitute specification in accordance with MPEP

§608.01(q) and 37 CFR 1.125(b). No new matter is added. Entry of the substitute specification and abstract is respectfully requested.

A revised abstract is provided herein on a separate page with the substitute specification. It is submitted that the revised abstract is in full conformance with 37 CFR 1.72 and MPEP 608.01(b). Therefore, reconsideration of the objection to the abstract is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 AND 103

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by any of the Noguchi, Yoshida, or Choi references. Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Hitoshi reference. Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by the Kinya reference. Claims 9, 10, 13 and 14 are rejected as obvious over the Inoue reference in view of the Satoh reference under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicant herein respectfully traverses these rejections.

“Under 35 U.S.C. §102, anticipation requires that each and every element of the claimed invention be disclosed in the prior art reference. ... In addition, the prior art reference must be enabling, thus placing the allegedly disclosed matter in the possession of the public.” *Akzo N.V. v. U.S. International*

Trade Commission, 1 USPQ 2d 1241, 1245 (Fed. Cir. 1986), *cert. denied*, 482 U.S. 909 (1987). "To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine the reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on the applicant's disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991)." MPEP §706.02(j) "Contents of a 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection". It is respectfully submitted that the cited references fail to disclose at least the following features and elements of the present invention.

Claim 9 is now amended to incorporate subject matter of cancelled claims 10 and 13. The combination of features of claim 9 provides the distinguishing feature that the cylindrical bearing is supported by a stepped flange structure. In particular claim 9 recites:

a flange on an inner diameter side of the flat annular portion, and a second axially extending portion connected at a first axial end thereof to an inner periphery of said flat annular portion and at a second axial end thereof to said flange to form a stepped flange structure.

The cylindrical bearing is then mounted to the flange on a second side of the rotor yoke while the magnet is mounted to the flat annular portion on a first side of the rotor yoke. The stepped structure positions the bearing and enhances the structural integrity of the rotor by preventing radial displacement of the bearing. Simultaneously, the magnet is mounted on the other side of the second axially extending portion and is positioned thereby. Such a structure is not disclosed in the cited references nor is the requisite suggestion provided by the references to arrive at the claimed invention.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are not anticipated nor rendered obvious by the cited references for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration of the rejection of claim 9 and its allowance are respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER OBJECTIONS

Claims 11 and 12 are objected to as being dependent from rejected base claims. The Examiner indicates that the claims contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if put in independent form incorporating the limitations of the base and intervening claims. The claims are amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Reconsideration of the objection and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.


TIME EXTENSION REQUEST

Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$120.00 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

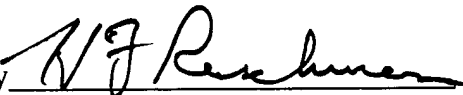
In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,

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enc: Substitute Specification; and Marked reproduction of original specification.